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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SPRING SOWING, EQUIPMENT PREPARATIONS IN KAZAKH SSR

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 18 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by V. Krinitskiy, Kazakh SSR: "On the Fields of Kazakhstan"]

[Excerpts] The farmers in southern Kazakhstan are intensifying the tempo of their spring field work. The farms in Chinkent Oblast have commenced the mass sowing of grain crops, more than 150,000 hectares have already been sown in neighboring Dzhambul Oblast and the sowings of corn for grain on irrigated lands have been expanded considerably. The work is being carried out during the best agrotechnical periods, with use being made of specialized detachments and complexes. The machine operators are working in two shifts and technical servicing of the units by teams of expert trouble-shooters has been well organized.

The farms in Alma-Ata Oblast are sowing barley and wheat on non-irrigated land along the natural boundaries of Karaoye and Kerbulak. On the remaining tracts the fields are being levelled off, moisture retention work is being carried out, the soil is being cultivated and fertilizers are being applied.

For their spring sowing, the oblast's farmers have prepared good quality seed for their spring grain and pulse crops and they have displayed concern for creating a reserve supply for use in the event it becomes necessary to resow some winter grain tracts which did not produce the required density of seedlings.

But by no means are all of the oblast's farms prepared for the sowing campaign. The repair work on tractors, soil tilling implements and sowing machines in Balkhashskiy and Kurtinskiy Rayons has been dragged out. The land reclamation equipment is being prepared in a poor manner here -- one out of every five sprinkling units has still not been examined by a repair worker. The Kurtinskiy Reservoir is being filled slower than the rate called for in the planned schedules. In view of the fact that there was little snow this winter, water supply irrigation work is being carried out. But as yet only two thirds of the land requiring water has been irrigated.

A requirement exists for accelerating the repair of interfarm and intrafarm irrigation networks, especially on the Chingil'dinskiy irrigated tract, which quite properly is referred to as the "chief garden" of Alma-Ata, since it

supplies the population of the capital of Kazakhstan with early potatoes and vegetables. The land reclamation specialists, who are responsible for the repair and operation of hydraulic engineering installations, refer to a chronic shortage of spare parts and complain regarding the work being carried out by Goskomsel'khoztekhnika. At the present time, with its subunits being equally represented in the structure of the agroindustrial associations, these reproaches must be listened to.

Many farmers in Taldy-Kurgan Oblast are dissatisfied with the work of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika. During the past few years, which turned out to be very dry ones, they became convinced regarding the advantages offered by the soil-protective system of farming. Using a complex of anti-erosion equipment, the Enbekshi, Zhetyzhal'skiy and other farms in Kirovskiy and Taldy-Kurganskiy Rayons succeeded in noticeably increasing their grain yields obtained from light textured soils. Following their example, the farmers in Alakul'skiy, Kerbulakskiy and other rayons began employing the soil-protective system of farming. Thus the demand for stubble sowing machines, needle-shaped harrows and plow-cultivators increased sharply. And many farms remained without anti-erosion machines. But Goskomsel'khoztekhnika was not the only party at fault in this regard. The kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders themselves, who had failed to display concern for the timely handling of the requests for the required machines, had to share the blame. Thus an old picture is observed: the harrows are delivered to one rayon, sowing machine-cultivators to another and sweeps to a third rayon. As a result, none of these items of equipment are used in behalf of the harvest in the manner required, that is, so as to produce maximum results.

The RAPO [rayon agroindustrial association] councils must devote special attention to this work. At the present time, the grain farms in Taldy-Kurgan Oblast have commenced turning over the moisture out on the fields. There is only a short amount of time remaining prior to the commencement of the mass sowing operations. Proper use must be made of this time. Individual items of anti-erosion equipment must be gathered up from the machine yards and delivered in the form of assemblies to individual sovkhozes and kolkhozes for achieving more efficient use this year. And in the future the farms must be supplied with these machines only in the form of complete assemblies. The leaders of farms and the machine operators have made such a proposal on more than one occasion. The time is at hand for meeting them halfway in this regard.

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CSO: 1824/384

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

RICE SEED PRODUCTION IN KZYL-ORDA OBLAST

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 83 p 1

/Article by Yu. Kirinitsiyanov, Kzyl-Orda Oblast: "Availability of Rice Grain"

/Text/ An important sign during this current spring season in the rice region of Kazakhstan -- Kzyl-Orda Oblast -- is the consistent and steady growth in the culture of production. High quality seed has been prepared on almost all of the farms. The production of this seed is concentrated at specialized kolkhozes and sovkhozes. At the end of the last five-year plan, only three fourths of the areas had been sown in 1st or 2d class seed and at the present time -- 90 percent.

Regardless of the skill possessed by local experts, a preference is shown for rice seed to be prepared on a production line of the plant type. In Kzyl-Orda Oblast, a program is underway aimed at creating and strengthening seed production sovkhozes. There are six of them at the present time. Stations for the processing and storage of the grain are in operation at five of them. And this year the construction of a rice cleaning plant at the Chirkeyliyskiy Sovkhoz will commence. It will supply high quality seed for two rayons -- Terenozekskiy and Dzhalagashskiy.

The seed production farms have accomplished a great deal and still they are not operating at maximum capability. One reason -- they do not have specialized equipment at their disposal. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are unable to prepare adequate quantities of quality standardized seed. Yes and the storage of the grain is not proceeding too well. At the Sovkhoz imeni Leninskiy Komsomol, I visited an installation through the roof of which one could see the sky. It turned out that Glavrissovkhozstroy of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources delivered the storehouse while it still contained great deviations from the plan. The land reclamation specialists promised to correct the situation and yet no action has been taken.

Before long the machine operators in Kzyl-Orda will move out onto the rice check plots. The greater the concern displayed by the farm leaders and the councils of the agroindustrial associations for the quality of the sowing work, the greater will be the return realized from each hectare.

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CSO: 1824/384

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SOWING PREPARATIONS IN KAZAKHSTAN

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by G. Shipit'ko: "The Virgin Lands Prepare for Sowing"]

[Text] Snow retention is the traditional winter work in the virgin lands. But today it gives rise to a special mood in machine operators. After all, in comparison to many preceding years the snow cover is much greater.

In a number of oblasts the second stage of snow retention is already in progress. The height of the rolls sometimes reaches 1 meter. Machine operators are working in two shifts. Leading enterprises are extensively utilizing various improvements of local skilled persons. For example, the use of a cable hitch enables us to move up to 7-8 snow plows with two Kirovets tractors simultaneously. In Tselinograd Oblast efficiency experts developed a snow plow enabling workers to form two large rolls at the same time.

The machine operators of Kokchetav Oblast are working successfully. Each day they form rolls of snow on tens of thousands of hectares. The readiness of technology is significantly higher than last year, and over 93 percent of spring grain seed corresponds to high standards.

Setting the tune of competition are the farmers of Shuchinskiy Rayon. Last year they surpassed the quota for grain sales to the state by 65,000 tons. Their objective is to complete the grain five-year plan in 4 years. The rayon's enterprises have planned now to increase the area in promising wheat varieties.

The structure of the grain fields is to be improved in other oblasts of Northern Kazakhstan as well. The area in high-yield varieties such as Tselinnaya-20, Tselinnaya-21 and Kazakhstanskaya-3, developed by local breeders, has been expanded. Other varieties have also recommended themselves, each of which has its own characteristics, but each of which is more resistant to drought and diseases and produces seed with excellent bread-baking qualities.

The transport of organic fertilizer into the fields is not being curtailed. Still, each year a significant portion remains unused. This year many

enterprises decided to increase its application, thereby increasing the return per hectare. This work is being done well by the farmers of Fedorovskiy Rayon, Kustanay Oblast. Here up to 800,000 tons of humus have already been applied, which in the opinion of local specialists is equivalent to 30,000 tons of mineral fertilizer. Fertilizers are applied first to fallow fields where they will bring the greatest return. In each enterprise here productivity detachments have been created. They are operating successfully in the enterprises of Tselinograd, North Kazakhstan and Turgay oblasts.

Spring work under virgin land conditions is always characterized by a great burden on technology. This year there will be no decrease in this--in many oblasts tens of thousands of additional hectares of solonchaks soil are being introduced into the crop rotation.

The Ostrovskiy Sovkhoz of North Kazakhstan Oblast has already readied all soil cultivation equipment, tractors and combines. The basis for this high degree of readiness is the precise organization of the repair conveyor and a solid material and technical base. The same can be said about many other enterprises in the virgin lands. But in places where workers depended on repair plants things were much more complicated. The partners in the agro-industrial association are still not adhering to repair schedules. But what farmers complain most about is the quality of repairs. As before, the situation that developed with the preparation of the Kirovetses was alarming. Yaroslavl machine builders do not supply the complete volume of spare parts needed by repair shops in many oblasts. Evidently decisive measures are needed here on the part of the USSR Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and of the State Committee of the Agricultural Equipment Association.

Success in preparations for spring field work depends to a decisive degree on the skill of machine operators. Courses for machine operators are being held today in all virgin lands areas.

Progressive forms of labor organization are also being developed in the virgin lands. In Kustanay Oblast alone over 350 independent links have been formed--this is 1.5 times more than last year.

On the broad expanses of the virgin lands preparations are being made for the spring of the third year of the five-year plan.

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SPRING FIELD WORK IN NORTH KAZAKHSTAN

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 1 May 83 p 1

[Untitled article by A. Kostyukov, North Kazakhstan]

[Excerpts] In North Kazakhstan this is not the period that is referred to as the peak and zenith of spring field work. Mechanized units are just beginning their battle maneuvers. They will begin sowing grains in the middle of May, as is customary. Meanwhile they are harrowing late fall plowed fields, sowing grasses and plowing new lands. It is not only technology that is working. The farmer's mind is also at work, making more precise the final details of the coming sowing period.

Of course not everyone has prepared for the new field season in the same way. But on the whole farmers have worked soundly. Technology is better prepared than last year. There is almost a full guarantee that sowing will take place precisely according to the schedule planned by zonal science. Many farms have only first and second class seed. In the enterprises of Tselinograd Oblast, for example, 88 percent of seed is such. Virgin lands farmers have received more mineral fertilizer for sowing operations than in past years.

Work to optimize crop rotations must yield a return. In Kokchetav Oblast 570,000 and in Tselinograd Oblast 600,000 hectares of fallow are being allocated to grains. This is about one-fourth of wheat crops here.

Virgin lands farmers are continuing to expand the area in new varieties of the intensive type. During the winter agronomists once again reviewed crop structure in writing. Farmers in Tselinograd Oblast are increasing the area in barley by 50,000 hectares. This in no way impinges on the main fields--those in wheat. Newly assimilated lands are being used for barley and old arable lands are those on which it is difficult to produce good food grain for various reasons. Farmers of Pavlodar Oblast, who have the richest experience in the virgin lands concerning the cultivation of millet, intend to increase the production of this valuable groats crop.

Such are the plans. They are already "in the works." From the very beginning spring offered farmers a somewhat unusual schedule. As a result of fall rains and extensive snows the land was almost completely saturated with moisture. Both scientists and practical workers agree that under these

conditions it is best not to carry through early spring harrowing of fields, with the exception of lumpy soil. But soon dry weather came, to everyone's amazement. Strong winds began to blow and atmospheric humidity fell to normal for June. It was necessary to begin mass harrowing immediately.

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OVERVIEW OF SOWING PREPARATIONS IN KAZAKHSTAN

Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 83 p 1

[Article: "Toward Sowing in the Virgin Lands"]

[Text] The foundation for a good harvest is laid long before the start of spring field work. This truth is well-known to the grain farmer, and this is the reason for the rapid pace of preparations for sowing.

The farmers of the republic's southern oblasts are extending spring field work. The enterprises of the virgin oblasts are preparing for it. They have complete the cleaning and calibration of grain and legume seed. In the golden fund of the harvest the proportion of new regionalized varieties has increased in comparison with last year. In Kustanay, Kokchetav, North Kazakhstan and Turgay oblasts every third hectare of spike crop fields is being allocated to them.

The seed farmers of the virgin lands are introducing highly productive varieties ahead of schedule. Omskaya-9 and Tselinnaya-21 wheat varieties and Donetsk-8 barley variety will occupy all of the area allocated to them during the regionalization ahead of schedule, thus securing a weighty addition to the harvest in comparison to predecessors. Enterprises will sharply increase the area in durum wheat varieties.

The majority of sovkhoses and kolkhoses have prepared only first and second class seed. In the republic's northern oblasts about 200 enterprises, all experimental agricultural stations and other scientific institutions specialize in seed farming. As a rule they provide large batches of sowing material of highly productive varieties the year they are regionalized.

Four out of six virgin lands oblasts surpassed their quotas for snow retention. In most enterprises and rayons the ridging of snow rolls is being done a second time. Angle bars are used to cultivate perennial grasses, pastures and haylands. Some of the technology is reassigned from this work to move out organic fertilizer.

However, whereas in Kustanay and North Kazakhstan oblasts organic fertilizer is supplied to plowland in accordance with the indicated schedules, in Tselinograd, Kokchetav and Turgay oblasts lags have been tolerated and it is essential to correct this in the near future.

In the northern oblasts sowing technology is being prepared with the same rapid pace as last year.

In the republic snow retention operations have been performed on 30.5 million hectares--9 percent more than planned. About 25 million tons of organic fertilizer have been brought out into the fields--71 percent of the plan.

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

BRIEFS

SEED PREPARATIONS--Alma-Ata--Seed preparations have been completed by the virgin lands farmers of Kazakhstan. The proportion of new regionalized varieties in the fund for the future harvest has increased in comparison with last year. In Kustanay, Kokchetav, Tselinograd, North Kazakhstan and Turgay oblasts every third hectare of spike crop fields is being allocated for new regionalized varieties. Omskaya-9 and Tselinnaya-21 wheat varieties and Donetsk-8 barley variety will occupy all of the area allocated to them during regionalization one year ahead of schedule, thus securing a weighty addition to the harvest. [Text] [Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 5 Mar 83 p 1] 8228

CROP FERTILIZATION--Alma-Ata--Kazakhstan farmers are top-dressing winter crops one month ahead of schedule. By 5 March they had applied mineral fertilizer to 750,000 hectares of crops--half the area. In the footsteps of the southern oblasts the western and eastern oblasts also began this work. The early melting of snow forced farmers to take equipment out into the fields at an unusual time--this was the period when nitrogen top-dressing would be most effective. According to long-term data from the Alma-Ata affiliate of the Central Institute of Agrochemical Services, each quintal of mineral fertilizer yields an increase of almost 7 quintals of grain per hectare in Kazakhstan. To a significant degree this is the result of the introduction of progressive methods for utilizing the mineral fertilizer--early spring top-dressing and application into rows together with the seed, facilitating a high return with small fertilizer doses. It has been decided to utilize this method on 10.5 million hectares of grain fields, an area that is 1.5 times larger than last year. [Text] [Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 83 p 1] 8228

NORTH KAZAKHSTAN SOWING OPERATIONS--Alma-Ata--Half of the wheat fields, or over 5 million hectares, have been sown by the farmers in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan. Despite the frequent rains and wet snow brought on by the changing weather conditions seed is being put into the ground precisely according to schedule. This has been encouraged by competition among machine operators and by the collective method of work. [Text] [Moscow TRUD in Russian 22 May 83 p 1] 8228

HARROWING OPERATIONS--Alma-Ata--The farmers of the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan have begun the mass harrowing of late-fall plowed fields and fallow. The finely-loosened top layer of soil will prevent the evaporation of moisture and will provide the possibility of preserving its reserves until the beginning of sowing operations. [Text] [Alma-Ata SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 22 Apr 83 p 1] 8228

WINTER CROP TOP DRESSING--Alma-Ata, 25 May--Three oblasts of Kazakhstan -- Alma-Ata, Chirchik and Dzhambul -- have completed the work of applying a top dressing to their winter crops. A full dosage of nitrogen mineral fertilizer has been applied to 900,000 hectares of sowings. An early spring top dressing is effective: the increase in yield per hectare ranges from three to eight quintals of grain. The farms in the eastern and western oblasts are applying a top dressing to their grain crops at a high tempo. Of one and a half million hectares of winter crop fields in the republic, fertilizer has already been applied to two thirds of this amount. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 26 Mar 83 p 1] 7026

EARLY GRAIN SOWINGS--Alma-Ata, 26 Mar--The farmers in the valleys of Chirchik Oblast have completed sowing their early grain crops. Approximately 1,000 Kirovets machines, each with 3-5 stubble sowing machines, were employed around-the-clock. This made it possible to plant the seed in the soil during the best agrotechnical periods and in a high quality manner. Mineral fertilizers were applied to a majority of the tracts. The farmers in Taldykurgan, Kyzyl-Orda and Dzhambul Oblasts are sowing their grain and spring crops. Cereal grain crops have already been sown on 400,000 hectares throughout the republic. [Text] [Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 27 Mar 83 p 1] 7026

KAZAKHSTAN SOWING OPERATIONS--Spring has still not indulged the southern part of the republic with rainfall. The chief task at the present time -- to plant the seed in damp soil and to obtain healthy seedlings. The southern workers have achieved efficient use of their machines as a result of a number of factors: the sowing complexes and detachments are being staffed by two shifts of drivers, the servicing of equipment in the field has been organized and a portion of the teams has been converted over to operating on a collective contract basis. The sowing rates are considerably higher than those for last year. Spring crops have been planted on more than 682,000 hectares -- almost one third of a million more hectares than last year. Grain crops have been planted on the sixth thousandth hectare. The farms in Dzhambul Oblast are completing their sowing of cereal grain crops considerably earlier than was the case last year. Here and in other oblasts use is being made mainly of anti-erosion sowing machines. Many sovkhoses and kolkhoses are applying mineral fertilizers to the drill rows together with the seed. The farmers in the capital oblast have sown grain crops on almost double the number of fields

so sown last year. Work has commenced with regard to the sowing of sugar beets, the planting of potatoes and the mass planting of vegetable plantations and annual and perennial grasses. Following an examination of the areas under crops, a program is now being followed aimed at completely mastering the crop rotation plans. /Text/ /Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 83 p 1/ 7026

SPECIALIZED DETACHMENTS, COMPLEXES FORMED--Dzhambul--The farmers in all of the oblast's zones -- from the oases in the sands of Mryun-Kum to the foothills of the Tyan'-Shan Range -- have joined in the mass sowing of cereal grain crops. The seed has already been placed in the soil on 100,000 hectares. The agronomical services of farms and rayon agroindustrial associations are exercising special control over observance of the recommendations for raising the productivity of the grain fields, recommendations which were developed for each zone by scientists attached to the Kazakh Scientific Research Institute. The sowings of corn for grain on reclaimed lands have been expanded. Specialized detachments and complexes have been formed in the interest of ensuring that the work is carried out on the spring fields during the best agrotechnical periods. Double shift operations have been organized on each of these farms. The servicing of equipment out on the fields has been organized in all areas. /Text/ /Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Mar 83 p 1/ 7026

EARLY GRAIN CROP SOWINGS--Dzhambul, 5 Apr--The farmers in Sverdlovskiy Rayon completed sowing their early grain crops in just 50 working hours. The competition was headed by machine operators of the Dzhambul Beet Sovkhoz and the Kolkhoz imeni Amangel'da. The work was performed by one and a half shifts and the seed was sown together with mineral fertilizer. This agricultural method ensures a substantial increase in yield. The sowing of early grain crops was also completed in Dzhambulskiy and Talasskiy Rayons. Grain crops have been sown on approximately 180,000 hectares on all farms throughout the oblast. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 6 Apr 83 p 1/ 7026

HIGH QUALITY RICE SEED--Kzyl-Orda--The oblast's farmers have improved their rice seed to a high condition. More than 90 percent of this seed is of 1st or 2d class in quality. Large quantities of elite seed have been shipped to sovkhozes and kolkhozes by the Karaultyubinsk Experimental Farm of the Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Rice. Five hundred quintals of the new and highly productive Krasnodarskiy-424 variety have been prepared. /Text/ /Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Apr 83 p 1/ 7026

LEADING WORK METHODS--Spring has arrived on the fields in Dzhambul Oblast. The sowing of spring crops has commenced here. The new grain campaign has commenced. During this very busy period, the machine operators of the sowing complexes, detachments and teams are taking full advantage of each good hour of time and employing leading work methods on an extensive scale. The farms in Sverdlovskiy Rayon were some of the first to commence their field work. Here they are skilled at obtaining high grain yields. This year the sovkhozes and kolkhozes hope to obtain a fine harvest. /Text/ /Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 5 May 83 p 1/ 7026

RESPONSIBLE TASK--Sverdlovskiy Rayon, Dzhambul Oblast--The front of field work in Dzhambul Oblast is becoming larger in scope. The machine operators are

confronted by an important task -- carry out the sowing work as rapidly as possible and in a high-quality manner, ensure fine tending of the seedlings and obtain high yields. /by A. Korsunov/ /Text/ /Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 May 83 p 1/ 7026

SOIL IMPROVEMENT WORK--Alma-Ata--"The more fertilizer applied to the land -- the greater the yields." Recalling this truth, the farmers in the capital oblast, since the beginning of the year, have applied 1,500 more tons of mineral fertilizer to the fields than the amount called for in the schedule. The decision has been made to continue the high rates for applying top dressings. Organic fertilizer is being supplied by 155 specialized detachments of the oblast's Kazsel'khozkhimiya Association, which is equipped with powerful Kirovets machines, 260 tractors and 700 motor vehicles. In addition, each farm has its own fertility detachments. The work is being carried out on the basis of cartograms. The leader -- a detachment of the Dzhambul'skiy Rayon Sel'khozkhimiya Association. A top dressing was applied here to 27,000 hectares of winter wheat and 14,000 hectares of perennial grasses. The teams are headed by experts in the highly efficient use of irrigated lands. The oblast's farmers must apply 2.12 million tons of organic fertilizer to the fields. This plan has already been fulfilled by two thirds -- more than by this same period last year. The leaders in this work are the farms in Narynkol'skiy, Talgarskiy and Iliyskiy Rayons. /Text/ /Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 83 p 1/ 7026

GRAIN SOWINGS COMPLETED--Alma-Ata--The sovkhozes and kolkhozes in the plain zone of Dzhambul'skiy Rayon have completed their sowing of grain crops. Healthy seedlings have already appeared on many tracts. This year the farmers employed only SZS-2.1 stubble sowing machines, with the seed being placed in damp soil at a depth of 6 centimeters. In order to accelerate the work and reduce equipment idle time to a minimum, the experts at the sovkhozes Roslavl'skiy, Berektas, Kastekskiy and others installed highly productive sowing machine loaders. More than 40 detachments and complexes were employed in two shifts. The farms of five rayons throughout the oblast have already sown their cereal grain crops. The plantations of sugar beets and the annual and perennial grasses are being planted at a high tempo. /Text/ /Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 Apr 83 p 1/ 7026

CSO: 1824/384

LIVESTOCK

INDUSTRIALIZATION OF LIVESTOCK COMPLEXES DISCUSSED

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 26 May 83 p 2

[Article by K. Solntsev, academician at VASKhNIL [Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni V.I. Lenin]: "Working in a New Manner on Every Farm"]

[Text] At the present time there are over 4,500 industrial enterprises working to produce milk, beef, pork, lamb and wool, poultry meat and eggs. They are forming a seemingly new industrial branch of livestock farming with a high concentration and specialization of production. For example, 320 industrial complexes for the production of beef are operating efficiently. The average daily weight gain in livestock there is 22 percent greater than in regular enterprises. The delivery weight of animals comprises an average of 407 kilograms. Last year was completed with good results by 499 hog-raising complexes which maintained over 10 million hogs. In many of these the average daily weight gain of animals being fattened exceeded 500 grams. The results of the work of 282 highly mechanized industrial sheep-raising complexes provide a basis for evaluating the industrial technology of this branch as also very promising. In Stavropol Kray, for example, wool productivity increased by 15-17 percent in industrial complexes and the output of lambs increased by 9-10 percent.

There has been a swift development of industrial poultry farming, which now yields about 40 billion eggs and over 1,360,000 tons of poultry meat. Large capital investments are being directed at changing dairy livestock farming to industrial technology. There have been 2,064 dairy complexes built for 1.5 million cows and 185 complexes to raise 754,000 non-calving young cows. The milk productivity of cows in industrial complexes is 320-360 kilograms higher than on regular farms. As industrial technology improves the role of dairy complexes will continue to grow.

At the same time an analysis of the accumulated experience on the transition of livestock raising to industrial technology shows that this is a complicated process, that it requires a considerable number of years and that it also requires extensive capital investments. As of yet regular farms in kolkhozes and sovkhoses produce 92-93 percent of all beef, 72-73 percent of pork, 92-93 percent of lamb, 94-95 percent of milk and 92-93 percent of wool. For this reason it is essential to more fully utilize the possibilities of these farms by means of full-value feeding of animals and of improving breeding work, of proper labor organization and of increased labor productivity.

High indicators in increasing productivity have been achieved, for example, by the initiators of all-union socialist competition to increase the production and sale to the state of livestock products during the 11th Five-Year Plan--the livestock farmers of Cherkassy Oblast. The delivery weight of large-horned cattle that was fattened there reached an average of 403 kilograms and of 104 kilograms for hogs, enabling them to significantly increase meat production. Most of the enterprises of the Estonian and Lithuanian SSR's and Moscow and Leningrad oblasts annually produce 3,000-3,500 kilograms of milk per cow and about 500 kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the country produce an average of over 4,000 kilograms per cow.

Valuable in the technological sense is the flow-shop system of milk production and herd reproduction. It is used successfully not only in complexes but in regular farms as well. For example, the flow-shop system is being skilfully assimilated in the Kolkhoz imeni Il'ich, Voronezh Oblast. Here the obligations of each link have been precisely determined and individual-group scheduled feeding of cows with a consideration of the lactation period and productivity has been introduced. Whereas previously the average annual yield per cow was 2,400 kilograms of milk, last year this indicator had increased to 3,200 kilograms. In addition there has been a significant improvement in the reproduction of the herd. The kolkhoz now obtains 102-105 calves for every 100 cows. The Pobeda Kolkhoz, Ulyanovsk Oblast, increased the productivity of cows an average of 550 kilograms and increased milk yield to 3,200 kilograms per year per cow over a period of 5 years in which time the flow-shop method was utilized.

Worthy of imitation is the experience of the Kolkhoz imeni Lenin of Kamensko-Bugskiy Rayon, Lvov Oblast. By taking the herd of cows to the summer camp of bottom-land pasture consisting of leguminous grasses, during the five summer months the enterprise produces 2,600-2,700 kilograms of milk per cow, with a total of 4,100 kilograms of milk per cow annually. Pasture grass is one of the most inexpensive feeds. For this reason the kolkhoz yields 80-90 quintals of feed units per hectare of bottom land and each quintal costs only 2.4-2.8 kopecks.

It is very revealing that the well-known master of machine milking of cows from the Vil'yandi Sovkhoz of the Estonian SSR, Hero of Socialist Labor and recipient of the USSR State Prize milkmaid L. Peyps, producing 5,200-5,300 kilograms of milk from each cow in her group and annually yielding 493-500 tons, works on an old and small farm. Nevertheless, high results have been achieved because of full-value feeding, a good organization of labor and high-quality zootechnology.

There are livestock-raising farms with stable profits and good productivity that utilize intensive work methods in every rayon, oblast and kray. Let us take as an example not the cream of the crop but an average enterprise--the Kolkhoz imeni 17 Parts'yezd of Goret'skiy Rayon, Mogilev Oblast. The dairy herd of 840 cows is maintained there in relatively old wooden cowsheds. However, the technology of milk production is mechanized there. The proportion of green, succulent and coarse feeds in cow rations comprises 75-76 percent and concentrates make up 24-25 percent. In addition, all feed is produced

there and grain forage is made up of 15 percent feed lupine, which enables the kolkhoz to quite successfully deal with the protein problem. Not accidentally the enterprise obtains a high milk yield--3,300 to 3,400 kilograms of milk on the average per cow; production profits comprise 24-25 percent.

Unfortunately, by far not all specialists of kolkhozes, sovkhoses and agricultural organs were able to properly assimilate the process of expanding the building of large livestock-raising complexes of the industrial type and to relate this to the necessity to improve production technology and organization on mass, that is regular, kolkhoz and sovkhos farms. It was not by accident that during the past decade in a number of enterprises there has been a decline of interest in progressive and self-justifying work methods such as the organization of individual, group and mass milking of cows, the movement for milkmaids to produce yields of 5,000 kilograms, instituting intensive summer grazing for large-horned cattle and sheep in pastures, the directed fattening of young hogs by means of intensive fattening methods, and others.

We cannot fail to mention that in recent years regular kolkhoz and sovkhos farms have lost the attention of scientists. In essence the collectives of livestock farmers working there have been left to their own devices. And still it is they who are still the main producers of livestock products.

Zootechnical scientific institutions were involved primarily in improving and developing industrial technology for production in large complexes and farms. And during the current five-year plan the collectives of 156 institutes are involved only in developing a comprehensive scientific-technical program to increase production output in livestock farming on an industrial base. Their research is related to industrial livestock raising complexes primarily. Attention to regular farms continues to decrease. The scientific-technical council of the USSR Agricultural Ministry made a large number of recommendations in 1972-1982 with regard to introducing the achievements of science and progressive experience primarily in large complexes and farms with industrial technology for the production of livestock products. Of course they are necessary. At the same time there are no or few recommendations on using intensive methods of managing livestock raising and of improving the productivity of animals in kolkhoz and sovkhos farms.

We hardly need to prove that it is still premature to leave these farms without the attention of science. We feel that the elaboration of progressive methods for production management in large complexes as well as in regular farms, which still prevail according to their number and according to their scale of production output, is still a unified and synchronous process and it must be taken into account in production planning and scientific research.

It would be appropriate to add a reminder that the well-known resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on the development of livestock production output on an industrial basis pointed to the necessity to implement the corresponding measures to increase livestock production output in each enterprise and on each farm. This must be used as our foundation.

In the five pavilions devoted to livestock raising in the USSR VDNKh [Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy of the USSR], for example, there is no shortage of literature in the stalls. Visitors can become acquainted with 55 brochures and booklets that clearly and convincingly describe the work experience of the best industrial complexes and leaders in the livestock-raising industry. At the same time there is practically no literature at all about the achievements of livestock farmers who are not involved in work in industrial complexes.

The labor collectives of farms and complexes are intensively striving to generally improve productivity in livestock raising. This striving is born of the desire to make a worthy contribution to fulfilling the Food Program, which presupposes the utilization of all reserves and resources, including the important factor of intensifying production on each kolkhoz and sovkhoz farm regardless of its size.

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PLENUM REVIEWS BELORUSSIAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD PROGRAM

Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 29 Apr 83 pp 1-2

[Article: "Effectively Dealing With Practical Problems in Agricultural Development and the Realization of the Food Program"]

[Excerpts] In his report to the plenum N. N. Slyun'kov said that at a recent meeting in the CPSU Central Committee of the first secretaries of central committees of union republics and party obkoms and kraykoms several practical questions regarding the development of agriculture and the realization of the Food Program were examined. This attests to the enormous attention paid by the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo to the practical organization of affairs concerning the implementation of the 26th party congress line regarding further improving the well-being of the Soviet people and implementing the decisions of the May and November (1982) plenums of the CPSU Central Committee.

The speech presented by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, presented a thorough, party-principled analysis of the status of the country's agroindustrial complex, precise ways to improve the effectiveness of agricultural production and ways to unconditionally achieve the goals of the Food Program.

N. N. Slyun'kov noted that today we are gathered here to examine through the prism of the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee and the conclusions and directives presented in the speech of Yu. V. Andropov the status in republics, oblasts and rayons of fulfillment of plans regarding the production and procurement of agricultural products and to make arrangements for measures that will ensure the realization of our Food Program in all of its aspects.

It should be emphasized that a good and truly business-like situation has been developed here and in the country as a whole under the favorable influence of the November 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee to solve this problem and to successfully realize the socio-economic program of the five-year plan as a whole.

There has been a notable growth in production output in livestock farming. The quarter plan for meat procurement has been fulfilled by 110 percent, for

milk--by 103, and of eggs--by 109 percent. Growth over last year comprised 10, 5 and 4 percent respectively. The number of large-horned cattle has increased by 4 percent, of hogs--by 6 percent.

However, the named figures should not give one a sense of well-being. We still have to deal with many difficulties and many unsolved problems in livestock farming as well as agricultural farming.

Comrade Yu. V. Andropov's conclusion that the situation in agriculture still remains complex applies in full measure to Belorussia.

The CPSU Central Committee has required party committees and organizations and all cadres to work more actively to eliminate difficulties with the goal of accelerating the pace of agricultural development and the solution to the food problem.

This is the primary duty of the republic's party organization, this is a problem that we are responsible for before the party and the state. This is the main area for our concern and for our daily work.

The efforts of party committees and organizations, soviet and agricultural organs and all workers in the agroindustrial complex of the republic must be concentrated on the practical fulfillment of this year's plans and plans for subsequent years of the five-year plan regarding the production and procurement of agricultural products and on strengthening work to make up for the shortcomings that developed during the first 2 years of the five-year plan.

Our debts are considerable. The 1981-1982 plan was fulfilled only for the procurement of grain, fruit, eggs and wool. During this period the state was undersupplied with significant quantities of potatoes, sugar beets, vegetables, flax fiber, meat and milk.

The speech mentioned the oblasts and rayons which have incurred the greatest debts in the procurement of farming products. An especially acute problem is the necessity to improve work in the production and securement of procurement plans for traditional Belorussian crops such as potatoes and flax. Lags in the plan of sales have been tolerated by Vitebsk, Mogilev and Gomel oblasts. Minsk Oblast has obligations with regard to the supply of potatoes.

N. N. Slyun'kov continued that ahead of farming there are still 3 years of work, three harvests. We can and must change everything for the better. Of course, this is not an easy matter. Good results will not appear on their own.

It is essential to bring all existing reserves into operation and to utilize all of our resources wisely. First of all we must secure stability in farming and significantly improve productivity. The ways to achieve this goal under our conditions are well-known. This includes firstly improving soil fertility by increasing production, improving the quality and efficient utilization of fertilizers and improving the system of farming and the

structure of sowing areas and of seed farming. In other words, we are speaking about improving the general quality of land management.

In this regard the current year must be a turning point. A great deal will depend on how spring field work is carried out. Unfortunately, the sowing pace does not correspond to either the material-technical possibilities that exist in enterprises or to meteorological considerations.

This refers to Gomel and Minsk oblasts, where spring work was begun one month ago. This applies to Vitebsk and Mogilev oblasts, where weather conditions, especially recently, would permit farmers to increase the sowing pace.

Deserving of serious rebukes for a lack of organization in these matters are the directors and specialists of Lepel'skiy, Orshanskiy, Postavskiy, Yel'skiy, Lel'chitskiy, Oktyabr'skiy, Belynichskiy, Csipovichskiy, Rogachevskiy, Slutskiy, Kirovskiy and a number of other rayons.

Our task is to quickly make up for violations and to complete sowing operations in the optimal time everywhere according to the proper system.

Naturally, the quality of sowing operations must be uppermost in the minds of farmers constantly and everywhere. As an examination has shown, not enough attention has been given to this important question.

The speaker noted that all of us must realize our own responsibility for the tasks at hand with regard to livestock farming during the five-year plan.

During the last 2 years not a single oblast fulfilled the plan for the sale of milk, livestock and poultry to the state. Extensive lags were tolerated by the enterprises of Ivatsevichskiy, Dubrovskiy, Gorodokskiy, Orshanskiy, Postavskiy, Shumilinskiy, Tolochinskiy, Oktyabr'skiy, Dobrushskiy, Rechitskiy, Zhitkovichskiy, Berestovitskiy, Zel'venskiy, Oshmyanskiy, Lyubanskiy, Uzdenskiy, Kostyukovichskiy, Krasnopol'skiy, Krichevskiy, Chauskiy and Bykhovskiy rayons.

Of course, some objective factors affected this branch, as they did the branch of farming. If we look to these for reasons for lags we will find them. Unfortunately, some cadres have chosen to travel along this path. But this approach is incorrect; it is not in our interest.

There are quite a few enterprises and rayons here which achieve adequate results under any weather conditions and which annually fulfill plans to sell all types of products to the state.

In order to reach the level of the five-year plan the republic must sharply increase its average annual sales of milk, livestock and poultry in the remaining period in comparison with the two preceding years.

This goal is not an easy one. It is extremely complicated. But it must be solved despite difficulties and hindrances.

For this there is an adequate foundation, created as a result of a noticeable growth in the herds of all types of animals under the difficult conditions of the last few years. It is true that at the present time we do not have a sufficient quantity and the necessary quality of feed. We have not as yet lost the opportunity to radically alter the situation with feed, thereby also altering the situation with the production and procurement of milk and meat.

The cardinal solution to the feed problem must be established as the basis for all of our work--organizational, political and economic--to increase the return of the livestock farming branch. Because of the shortage of feed, its low quality and its unbalanced nature the productivity of livestock farming not only has not increased, it has even decreased somewhat.

In order to reach the volume of production and procurement of animal products stipulated in the Food Program this year we must increase feed production in comparison to last year by 3.6 million tons of feed units, or by 18 percent, and by the end of the five-year plan--by 6.6 million tons, or by 34 percent, with an accompanying sharp improvement in quality.

First of all we must concentrate our attention on solving the key question for the republic--the radical restructuring of feed fields and of feeds themselves. We are speaking of rapidly increasing the volume of feeds and of eliminating the main shortcoming in procured forage--a chronic lack of balance with regard to protein and other components.

We should work on the assumption that no one will balance our feeds for us. The republic has at its disposal the soil and climatic conditions as well as the trained cadres to do this.

Already this year as compared to 1980 corn crops in the republic are increasing by 74 percent; in 1985--by 87. Perennial grasses will increase by 13 and 14 percent respectively and the cutting area for clover will increase by factors of 1.5 and 3.5. The area in peas, vetch, lupine and other legumes is increasing considerably.

It is necessary to improve the variety of perennial and annual grasses and to activate work to improve natural feed lands and to develop highly productive pastures near each farm. With the goal of improving the preservation and nutritive value of feed resources we should aim to store all hay under tarpaulins and all haylage and silage in lined facilities by the end of the five-year plan. All of this will enable us to increase the proportion of coarse feed in forage to 21 percent, succulent feed to 13 and of summer greens to 31 percent and to decrease the proportion of concentrated feeds to 32 percent.

It is clear that in and of themselves the indicated measures will not just work "automatically." In order to realize them great efforts will be required on the part of party committees and organizations, soviet and economic organs and kolkhozes and sovkhoses.

Right now every spring day must be utilized in every enterprise to restructure feed production in accordance with the needs of intensive livestock farming.

In addition to strengthening the feed base, said N. N. Slyun'kov, we have other great reserves at our disposal to increase the production of milk and meat. One priority is improving the productivity of animals.

At present we still cannot evaluate work in this direction satisfactorily. In January-March, for example, the average daily weight gain for large-horned cattle being fattened not only did not reach the levels planned--650 grams, but actually decreased in comparison with the corresponding period last year in the enterprises of Brest, Gomel, Minsk and Mogilev oblasts. The greatest lags according to this indicator were tolerated in the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Ivatevichskiy, Stolinskiy, Gantsevichskiy, Dokshitskiy, Lepel'skiy, Shumilinskiy, Zhitkovichskiy, Oktyabr'skiy, Gomel'skiy, Novogrudskiy, Oshmyanskiy, Smorgonskiy, Kopyl'skiy, Soligorskiy, Gluskiy, Bykhovskiy and Krasnopol'skiy rayons.

The republic can and must increase meat production volume by increasing the weight of animals sold to the state, and primarily of calves. Last year their average weight comprised only 320 kilograms. Only 23 percent of the calves sold by Vitebsk Oblast weighed over 350 kilograms; by Mogilev Oblast--33 percent; and by Minsk Oblast--37 percent. The average weight of calves sold in these oblasts was 293, 305 and 301 kilograms respectively.

The necessity to replenish meat reserves dictates the implementation of appropriate measures to increase progeny and to improve the preservation of animals.

Many problems must be solved in dairy farming. This year 4,200,000 tons of milk must be procured from all categories of enterprises, i.e. to meet the goals foreseen by the five-year plan. This means that it is essential to achieve a growth of no less than 7.6 percent over 1982 levels and that milk yield per cow must comprise 2,260 kilograms, or 100 kilograms more than last year.

During 3.5 months it was possible to exceed last year's levels for milk procurement by only 5 percent.

The situation applies to the republic as a whole. As for Minsk Oblast, here the productivity of cows during this period decreased by 30 kilograms and milk procurement decreased by 3 percent. A decreased milk yield was tolerated in the enterprises of Ivanovskiy, Stolinskiy, Ivatsevichskiy, Chashnikskiy, Oktyabr'skiy, Svetlogorskiy, Zhitkovichskiy, Kopyl'skiy, Stolbtsovskiy, Krupskiy, Slutskiy, Dzerzhinskiy, Gluskiy, Osipovichskiy, Belynichskiy and some other rayons. The reason is always the same--cows were not fed enough.

The pasture period is coming, a period of a large milk yield and weight gain. Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes have already begun utilizing the green conveyor.

It is very important to not waste time, to utilize pasture lands economically and wisely and to secure the continuous works of links with regard to pasture care and the systematic use of grass stands.

Concern must be shown for providing animals with water and mineral substances in the pastures and for mobile milking equipment and other equipment. Each enterprise must thoroughly think out a plan of organizational-technological measures to achieve large yields and weight gains in livestock during the summer.

There are no trifles here that could be neglected. Here is an example. A check by the BSSR Agricultural Ministry determined that in many kolkhozes and sovkhoses improperly adjusted milking equipment is used every day, that each day the technology of milking cows is violated. Because of this, according to specialists, up to 10 percent of milk is underproduced. Very little effort is required to correct this situation and the results would be great.

In summarizing the discussion on the status of farming and livestock raising, continued N. N. Slyun'kov, we have the basis to say that our enterprises, rayons, oblasts and republics generally have enormous potential in unused resources and great actual possibilities for increasing milk and meat production. All of our work must be subjugated to the complete assimilation of these reserves.

Already this year Chashnikskiy, Mozyrskiy, Svetlogorskiy, Belynichskiy, Bobruyskiy, Goretskiy, Kirovskiy and Osipovichskiy rayons plan to come out at the level of the third year of the five-year plan in the procurement of livestock and poultry and Maloritskiy, Pinskiy, Chashnikskiy, Lel'chitskiy, Narovlyanskiy, Rogachevskiy, Voronovskiy, Mostovskiy, Bobruyskiy and Slavgorodskiy rayons--in the procurement of milk.

The speech also named a large group of rayons which planned to fulfill the goals of the five-year plan in the procurement of livestock products in 1984.

It was noted that many other rayons still have the real possibility to compensate for obligations that were incurred in preceding years.

Oblast party organizations, said N. N. Slyun'kov, must dispose themselves to significantly surpass the national economic plan of the current year for the sales of livestock and poultry. The goals for the five-year plan in 1983 must be used for orientation.

Persistent work must continue everywhere, in all links of the agroindustrial complex to seek out and mobilize supplementary reserves and resources for increasing the production of animal products.

In the near future the Belorussian CP Central Committee will examine organizational-economic measures in each oblast with regard to the fulfillment of five-year plans from the point of view of the completeness of utilization of reserves and possibilities, their intensity and economic foundation.

It is intended to also hear reports from individual rayons, especially from those which are having trouble fulfilling the plans for agricultural production output. Party committees and organizations should perform similar work on the oblast, rayon and enterprise level.

The speaker continued that we are called upon to work more actively in all directions of the struggle to fulfill the Food Program.

It was noted at the meeting of the CPSU Central Committee that a great deal of help in supplying labor collectives with food should and must come from the subsidiary enterprises of industrial enterprises. But in many areas this important matter is not given sufficient attention. This criticism applies also to the Belorussian SSR. Although about 500 subsidiary enterprises have been created here during the last 4 years, only 79 were created by industrial enterprises. Most of them are small and their contribution to supplying labor collectives with food is very modest. This problem is being dealt with very unsatisfactorily in Minsk and in some oblast centers.

It is essential to firmly hold to the policy that every enterprise of union or republic subordination and every organization or institution be involved in the production of a particular agricultural product either independently or cooperatively.

This does not at all mean that everyone must go into large-scale agriculture or develop large livestock farms. This should be done in those places where a feed base exists in the form of food wastes and where only supplements to the base are required. But any collective can without difficulty and hindrances organize the production of fruits and vegetables and rabbits.

These problems must be dealt with efficiently everywhere. They must be strictly controlled by party and soviet organs.

It is essential to more actively utilize the possibilities of private plots to improve food supplies for the population. It cannot be considered normal that in the republic one-third of the families living in villages do not have large-horned cattle or that one-fourth of households are not involved in raising hogs.

The report subjected to criticism the administration of the fish industry of the BSSR Council of Ministers, which is not dealing properly with the problem of increasing the productivity of ponds and natural water reservoirs.

It was also noted that in the republic efforts have not yet been sufficient in strengthening the development of fruit and vegetable production. It was noted that Belorussia has at its disposal the possibilities and conditions that would enable it to rapidly deal fully with this portion of the Food Program.

The BSSR Fruit and Vegetable Ministry and the BSSR Agricultural Ministry today must do everything necessary to make sure that this year the republic does not experience interruptions in the trade of potatoes, onions, beets, carrots, apples and table greens.

More energy should be put into expanding the base for storing fruit and vegetable products and into developing hothouse production. Cities and industrial enterprises must participate actively in this.

The CPSU Central Committee has set the goal of more effectively utilizing those enormous resources that are being directed by the state into the development of the agroindustrial complex.

In the report criticism was directed at Vitebsk Oblast where despite a considerable strengthening of economic potential in the last 7 years there has been a drop in the productivity and output of grains and a decreased production of potatoes, vegetables, flax, meat and milk. Mention was made of the extensive lags, the slow pace of development of agricultural output and the poor utilization of resources allocated by the state in Mogilev Oblast. It was noted that in Minsk Oblast capital investments for the creation of a material base for work with organic and mineral fertilizers are being poorly assimilated.

The proposals and conclusions, directives and demands contained in the speech of Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, noted N. N. Slyun'kov, are for party committees and organizations and soviet and agricultural organs a specific program in the struggle to implement the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Food Program.

It is essential to collate the goals established at the meeting with all practical work to increase production and to fulfill plans for the procurement of agricultural products.

Now that agroindustrial associations are operating in the village and dealing with solving economic problems party committees must significantly increase the level of organizational and political work in village labor collectives.

It is essential to bring the results of the meeting in the CPSU Central Committee to each worker and to mobilize people for the fulfillment of the goals of the five-year plan.

The center of gravity of all work must be moved directly to sovkhoses and kolkhoses, to brigades and farms--to those places where the fate of our plans is decided.

Workers of party committees and administrative organs of agroindustrial associations must first of all work more in enterprises, dealing with problems that may arise competently together with cadres.

As the facts confirm, the restructuring of work in this direction does not have a place everywhere. The force of inertia and the devotion of some directors and specialists to manage affairs primarily by various types of meetings, instructions and directives have had their effect.

In some places organizations that belong to agroindustrial enterprises still operate independently. Narrow departmental interests still predominate there.

As an evaluation in the bureau of the central committee of the report on the Dobrushskiy Rayon agroindustrial association showed, its soviet still limits itself to an examination of individual small problems, coordinates and directs the activities of the agricultural equipment association, Sel'khoz-khimiya [Agricultural chemical association] and other organizations that are part of the association poorly. There is an absence of effective controls over the implementation of measures to eliminate lags of economically weak enterprises.

It is the task of party committees to help RAPO stand firmly on its own two feet and to more actively work toward the successful fulfillment of the Food Program. At the same time party organs cannot tolerate substitutions of soviets of agroindustrial associations or watch over cadres unnecessarily. It is important to arrange things so that the entire circle of economic questions, both current and future, be dealt with primarily in agroindustrial associations.

There must be more specificity and efficiency, more initiative and responsibility in the work of republic ministries and departments that belong to the agroindustrial complex and to the activities of the Commission of the Presidium of the BSSR Council of Ministers.

The complicated tasks before agriculture, the growing use of the achievements of science and technology and the transition to progressive forms of organizing and paying for labor make great and in a great degree new demands on the management cadres of kolkhozes and sovkhoses. In each production and administration section there must be skilled managers, knowledgeable persons, and specialists with a great feeling of responsibility who understand the tasks at hand very well and who know how to eliminate difficulties that may arise.

A subject of constant concern for party and soviet organs must be the securing of cadres of mass professions in kolkhozes and sovkhoses. In other words, as Comrade Yu. V. Andropov noted, work with cadres must be held strictly in the hands of the party.

More residential quarters, schools, vocational-technical schools and other structures for cultural-municipal purposes should be built in villages. This is according to the CPSU Central Committee.

It is also essential to persistently implement the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee in every kolkhoz and sovkhos regarding further improving the forms of labor organization and material stimulation and more closely tying the individual interests of all workers with the quality and quantity of production and with economic resources.

In connection with this it is important to more purposefully become involved in the restructuring of the work of brigades, links and farms on the principles of cost accounting and collective contracts.

The year 1983 will be decisive for the five-year plan as a whole. This, emphasized the speaker, places a special responsibility on us to unconditionally meet all the goals planned for this year. This year will be a strict attestation for party committees and organizations and for all cadres. The main criteria for evaluating their efforts and work will be the successful achievement of all goals.

Allow me to express certainty, said N. N. Slyun'kov, that each oblast and rayon and each enterprise will do all that is necessary to pass the test with honor and to make a worthy contribution toward fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the Food Program.

In opening the debate on the report, the first secretary of the Minsk obkom of the party, V. A. Mikulich, discussed how the oblast's workers are working to fulfill the goals of the 11th Five-Year Plan. In critically evaluating that which has been achieved, he emphasized that we and our cadres have not yet learned to work in such a way so as to produce stable harvests of agricultural crops under any weather conditions.

Kolkhozes, sovkhozes and rayons have worked out measures to compensate for the underproduction of all types of products and to fulfill the goals of the five-year plan. The oblast's party organization is taking measures to increase the production of milk and meat. The existing herd of livestock provides us with the possibility of solving this task, but feed is a serious hindrance. The sowing structure of feed crops has been examined with the goal of creating a stable feed base in the oblast. There has been a significant expansion in the area in legumes, corn, feed beets and cruciferae. Combination, intermediate and repeat crops will be widely used. Significant work is being done to strengthen the material-technical base of the branch of feed production and feed preparation. Everything is now subordinate to one goal--to increase production to no fewer than 38 quintals of feed units per standard head of cattle per year and to 18 quintals for the coming overwintering period; this includes livestock that is in the private possession of citizens.

V. A. Mikulich discussed the question of the labor supply in enterprises. He said that in order to satisfy our need for cadres it is essential to build more buildings for cultural-consumer purposes and more residential facilities. Each kolkhoz and sovkhoz should build no fewer than 10 apartments per year. We are building only four. There is a shortage of capital investments and building material. The village needs immediate help from Gosplan, the agricultural ministry, the fruit and vegetable ministry, the republic's building ministries and administrative enterprises and organizations.

The first secretary of the Grodno obkom of the Belorussian CP, L. G. Kletskov, said that the scale and complexity of tasks related to the development of the agroindustrial complex requires an improvement in organizational work and increased work discipline in all links. It is the duty of party committees to constantly develop the creative activeness of cadres and to encourage the rapid introduction into production of the achievements of scientific-technical progress and leading practices.

In the oblast there is an orderly system for retraining cadres, primarily directors of production sections and farms, other managers of the middle link and secretaries of local party organizations in kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

At the center of attention of party committees and organizations are the questions of the more efficient and effective use of allocated resources, the improvement in the structure and distribution of agricultural crops, and the overall improvement in soil fertility, the total indicator of which has increased by a factor of 2.5 during the last 15 years. To a great degree this encouraged the fact that the plan for 2 years of the five-year plan in crop production was fulfilled for all crops except grain. Feed production has increased 12 percent. The size of the herds of large-horned cattle and hogs has increased and their productivity has grown. Adequate prerequisites have been developed for the successful fulfillment of the indicated great goals and for meeting the requirements of the Food Program.

The next speaker was the first secretary of the Mogilev obkom of the Belorussian CP, V. V. Prishchepchik.

He said that the party's requirements to improve the level of work in realizing the Food Program are of special significance to Mogilev Oblast. At the meeting in the CPSU Central Committee and at the present plenum it was justifiably and seriously criticized for the slow pace of development of agricultural production and for the poor use of state resources. It is true that during the current five-year plan the oblast has incurred debts to the state in potatoes, flax fiber, milk and meat. The day before yesterday there was a plenary session of the oblast party committee, which self-critically evaluated the existing situation and which directed cadres toward expressing more initiative and decisiveness in the use of branch reserves.

At the present time our enterprises are striving to do everything they can to fulfill their obligations of the third year of the five-year plan. Technology is being utilized better than last year, more organic fertilizer has been procured, seed quality is higher and there are good prospects for the harvest of winter crops and perennial grasses. Field work is being carried out on a broad front and actively. We will try to complete spring sowing as quickly as possible.

The party obkom is directing cadres toward the active introduction of cost accounting and brigade contracts. In enterprises where this work has already been done and has yielded good results seminars have been organized to study the experience.

The speaker continued that we understand well that without the daily improvement in the styles and methods of work, without a decisive strengthening of discipline and order and without improving the responsibility of cadres it is difficult to solve the existing problems. We are striving to bring to a minimum the unproductive use of work time. Unfortunately, whatever is curtailed locally is made up for with interest from above. Some ministries and departments have begun to carry out their measures not in the capital but in

oblasts and rayons. In the first quarter of this year alone in Mogilev there were 14 scientific-practical conferences, seminars, symposiums and various meetings for directors and specialists. A large number of people are taken away from their work to prepare and participate in these. The flow of paperwork along departmental channels is increasing. The agricultural administration of the oblispolkom last year received over 3,000 various circulars and this year it has already received over 2,000. The paper carousel continues to turn.

In conclusion V. V. Prishchepchik said that the oblast's communists understand their responsibility to the party and the people and they will do everything they can to secure the successful fulfillment of the Food Program.

In order to achieve a maximal return on each hectare, noted the first secretary of the Brest raykom of the Belorussian CP, L. A. Ivchin, the land must be worked by a proprietor and not by a day-laborer and the criteria for evaluating his labor are the final results. The speaker discussed the introduction of collective contracts in the village. Sixty-nine production subdivisions are already working according to these and three enterprises have made the transition to complete cost accounting. By the end of the five-year plan it is planned to change all of production to this progressive method of labor organization. The first steps in the work of contract brigades and links during spring sowing already show that the pace and quality of field work are improving.

Further the speaker discussed the supply of cadres of mass professions in enterprises. The rayon party organization is focusing great attention on the vocational orientation of youth. The work that has been done has already yielded some results. Whereas in 1981 13 percent of high-school graduates remained in the village in 1982 over 22 percent did so.

In connection with this a great deal remains to be done with providing residential facilities. Resources are needed in order to build. Many enterprises do not have these. For this reason it is extremely necessary to manage better, to receive a large return from all branches of agricultural production and consequently to have more profits. This would enable us this year to completely eliminate all the debts of the last 2 years with regard to milk and to fulfill the 11th Five-Year Plan for all types of agricultural products.

The realization of the aforementioned measures to improve the economy of enterprises in the rayon will enable us to increase the profit level to 25 percent as compared to 5 percent of last year.

During the last 2 years of the five-year plan, noted the chairman of the Vitebsk oblispolkom, I. A. Shibeko, in his speech, the oblast undersupplied the state by 1,000 tons in milk, meat, potatoes and vegetables. The party obkom and oblispolkom have worked out specific measures to eliminate these lags. At the present time all of the efforts of party and soviet organs and of agroindustrial associations are directed at the realization of plans and socialist obligations of the current year and of the five-year plan as a whole.

The results for the first quarter make us hopeful. Plans for the sale to the state of meat, milk and eggs have been overfulfilled.

A subject of special concern for us is consolidating cadres in the village. This is a key problem today. The fact is that during the last 11 years the oblast's village population has decreased noticeably. This is why we are actively introducing progressive production technology which will enable us to increase production with fewer workers. For several years now sowing has proceeded according to the flow-group method and on many farms there is a division of labor according to operation. The two-cycle work regimen has been introduced in 86 percent of commodity dairy farms, in 78 percent of hog raising farms and 81 percent of farms raising large-horned cattle. But the most important link in this problem is the building of living facilities. Whereas during the 10th Five-Year Plan kolkhozes and sovkhoses introduced 1,500 apartments annually, or 2.6 per household, during 2 years of the current five-year plan 5,800 have been built, or 5 apartments per household. However, even this pace, said I. A. Shibeko in conclusion, does not meet our needs since there are still 11,000 village families on the waiting list for apartments. Moreover, there is a shortage of several thousand workers to fulfill all operations in farming and livestock raising. In order to attract them to the village apartments are also needed.

The next speaker was the first secretary of the Mozyrskiy Rayon committee of the Belorussian CP, P. S. Bagino. In characterizing the situation in the rayon he discussed the work that is being done to improve the quality of farming and livestock raising and the system of branch management and to introduce progressive forms of labor organization.

In accordance with measures worked out for the five-year plan in each enterprise with regard to feed production the area in perennial grasses has been increased. The area in catch and repeat crops will more than double. A number of measures are being implemented to improve the utilization of and to increase the productivity of haylands and pastures.

The main thrust in farming is being made to increase the return on land and to efficiently utilize each hectare. In the rayon's enterprises scientifically-based crop rotations are being introduced, as are efficient structures for sowing areas.

The fulfillment of the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and of the Food Program, emphasized the speaker, is indissolubly tied to raising the level of organizational and political work in all labor collectives of the agroindustrial complex for in the final analysis everything is decided by people, by their attitude toward matters and by their professional training. We are trying to make sure that every village director thoroughly understands the basis for scientific organization and management in production. Special efforts have been made to correctly distribute communists in production, to improve their vanguard role and to improve the practices of controlling and examining the carrying-out and strengthening of labor discipline.

P. S. Bagino directed the attention of the plenum's participants to the departmental approach of the organizations of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika, Sel'khozkhimiya and the enterprises of the meat and dairy industries with regard to questions of strengthening the economies of enterprises. These services do not as yet depend on the final results of kolkhozes and sovkhoses, i.e. everything is proceeding basically in the way that it did prior to the creation of agroindustrial associations.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

INITIAL RAPO OPERATIONS EVALUATED

Experience of Lithuanian RAPO

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 15 Apr 83 p 2

[Article by I. Bagdanskis, Yu. Budris, P. Chesna, TASS correspondents; Lithuanian SSR]

[Text] New RAPO agricultural management entities and related branches are making their first steps. Our discussion in the Radvilishsky district is about how they began in Lithuania and how the tasks set forth by the Food Program and decisions by the May and November 1981 Plenums of the CC CPSU are being put into practice.

This district as well as Lithuania as a whole specializes in production of dairy products and beef. Last year the yield of milk per 100 hectares of land equaled 700 quintals of milk and 170 quintals of meat. Grain harvest constituted 30.4 quintals.

"Our possibilities became much greater," says A. Chasas, chairman of the RAPO council. "All economical means are pooled together in order to affect agricultural production as well as the servicing branches. In addition to all farms in the district (they number over 30) RAPO includes all organizations dealing with supply, chemization, land improvement, construction, storing and processing of food and forestry.

The improvement in management is based on a complex approach to solving the problems in getting the final product. Regional and branch principles were combined and the local management has acquired more power. Now most of the problems of economic activity can be solved locally directly in a RAPO council.

Here is an example. One of the urgent tasks now is to successfully complete wintering of animals. An urgent issue was raised at the council meeting about improving the productivity of dairy herds, fattening livestock and improving quality of cattle breeding. The uneven development level of the branch and its expansion is significantly determined by availability of fodders. And not all farms have an adequate supply so far. A. Malinauskas, a council member, chairman of the "Draugas" ("Comrade") kolkhoz proposed to redistribute extra fodder from farms with reserves to those that are in particular need of

them. This has been approved by the council and implemented. Thus, the same collective farm "Draugas" on the basis of interfarm exchange gave 500 tons of silage and 60 tons of mixed feed to the "Grazhionis" sovkhos. Some other farms followed this example. And here are the results: Compared to the same period last year, average milk yield per one cow during the first months of the year increased in the district by over more than 50 kg. It should be noted that this rather high showing was to a greater extent achieved by increasing milk yield at lagging farms.

Initiative and efficiency help to successfully solve some other problems. It is doubtful whether all the machinery at the farms could be ready for the sowing campaign in such a short period of time were the joint fund of spare parts not created. Before this, spare parts remained in storage at "provident" farms, while others were unable to find them anywhere. This was perhaps the first year in the district when there were no difficulties in repairing machinery. The RAPO control over the distribution of spare parts has radically changed the situation. Mutual help has completely solved the problem of providing all farms with first-class spring crop sowing seeds and perennial herbs, primarily leguminous plants and clovers.

"It goes without saying that during its first months of activity RAPO could not cover the whole complex of urgent problems," says P. Shidlauskas, first secretary of the district party committee, who also joined the conversation, "But a good start has been made. Now the district party committee is doing its best to create necessary conditions for the RAPO activity, clear interaction between all of its links, and to promote initiative and independence."

Now, when an issue is raised at the raykom bureau about the situation in stock raising or crop growing, whether it is milk yield, stock fattening, or field productivity level, accounting and responsibility before party bodies is now carried out not only by leaders of kolkhozes and sovkhos but by their partners as well.

Special attention is paid to implementation of economic accounting at kolkhozes and sovkhos, and increasing personnel responsibility for better utilization of internal reserves. Collective contracting was introduced last year both for livestock farming and field crop cultivation. To improve these undertakings agricultural workers are counting on the assistance of scientists and economists.

"RAPO really needs this kind of help," says B. Poshkus, Doctor of Economic Sciences, director of Lithuanian Scientific-Research Institute of Economics of Agriculture. "The foundation for solving such questions has already been laid. Farms of the Radvilishsk district, as well as of the whole republic, are divided into four economic groups, with differentiated increases in state purchasing prices. This also takes into account natural and economic conditions of each farm. The RAPO council must specifically consider this when managing the agricultural economy.

As we know, beginning in 1983 state purchasing prices were increased for a number of livestock and field crop products. The RAPO council still has to

decide how to utilize with maximum effectiveness the additional income. Here it is assisted by the institute's scientists.

However, like any new undertaking, problems develop. The activity of party organizations, and the Committee of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers of the republic on the agroindustrial issues are channeled to the solution of this problem. The issue of where salary resources will be derived for workers of the agroindustrial associations must be clarified.

It is not completely clear how the resources of the centralized RAPO funds would be accumulated and utilized.

Economic Organization Criticized

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 21, May 83 p 18

[Article by A. Biryulya, chairman of the Kargat RAPO council, Novosibirsk Oblast: "What Economists Can Do: Economic Organization of Farms in Korgat Rayon in Novosibirsk Oblast."

[Text] Operation of RAPO in new conditions. Main tasks of the district agroindustrial complexes are specified in standard RAPO regulations. Of course, the way to solve them is selected in each particular case according to the circumstances. The council of our district agroindustrial association [RAPO] has determined the organization of effective economic work at the farms to be one of the most important tasks in its activity, providing increased productivity in crop cultivation and livestock farming.

Comparing results. If we take the economic analysis of rayon sovkhoz operation in recent years, our attention would first of all be drawn to the variety of the main indicators--productivity of labor, net cost of products, productivity of grain and cultivated crops, and of livestock farming. Through this diversity, principal failures of organizational and economic activity appear particularly clearly. For instance, why did unassigned field crop cultivation teams first develop at the "Gavrilovsk" sovkhoz? How do they achieve the lowest production costs per quintal of increased cattle weight? Why do they use the tractor depot better than others?

In our opinion, purposeful economic activity is one of the important conditions for productive success at this farm. Chief economist V. Chubarov holds high authority at the farm. The same is true of economists at the "Pervomaisk," "Ozersk," and "Trudovoy" sovkhozes.

Let's go back to the comparisons. For many years "Marshansky" sovkhoz has been making high profits. But during recent years it had a low yield of milk, low harvests of grain and feed crops. Net cost per quintal of milk is now the highest in the district. Last year losses were over half a million rubles.

Now let's take the "Kubansky" sovkhoz. It was unprofitable in the past, but steadily improved its situation. It produced leaders in the district

competition--unassigned ["beznaryadnyye"] teams to cultivate and harvest feed crops. The harvest of food grains has become significantly higher; there is more order at farms, in the fields and in the shops. Last year the farm received R340,000 in profit. The grain yield here per hectare was 6 quintals higher than at "Marshansk" sovkhov. The production per one standard tractor was higher by 2 hectares. From the sale of the first grade milk alone the "Kubansky" sovkhov received an additional profit of over 40,000 rubles, while the "Marshansky" sovkhov sustained losses. And during the first quarter of this year the collective successfully produced the target figures.

This is only a partial comparison, but it first of all reflects the different levels of efficiency. And no matter how often we have stated that the increase in efficiency of agricultural production is impossible without constant and thorough analysis and without a firm cost accounting basis, the situation would hardly change if economic services continue to choose the old ways of work.

At the same "Kubanskiy" sovkhov, the economic work there underwent a long and difficult period of adjustment. However, chief economist M. Dudnikova was optimistic and did not spare her efforts. Here, on a regular basis, and more importantly, with greater thoroughness, audits of cost accounting subdivisions were performed; the public bureau of economic analysis was strengthened, and personal economic accounting was introduced. It became a rule to discuss the results of economic activity at the workers' meetings. Workers of the planning and bookkeeping departments spend a lot of time in basic worker organizations where they thoroughly examined and sought to improve the organization and compensation of labor. That is, they learn themselves and teach others how to keep accounts.

The paper flow. There is no doubt that much depends on leaders, specialists, and on their ability to organize the work. If you ask N. Ulishchenko, chief economist of the "Marshansky" sovkhov about cost accounting, you would receive a comprehensive answer and information about how it should be structured. But why then is his influence on production efficiency equal to zero?

If you ask why the sovkhov sustains great losses of milk when graded by fat content, you will immediately receive the answer, that butter and cheese production plants reduce figures for quality and fat content. Why do the economists accept this situation, if this is really the case?

This is only one side of the matter for which some economists and leaders of the sovkhoves, economic services of the rayon agricultural economic management are responsible. But there is another no less important side of the matter. Now, all the rayon farms have a full staff of economists. All of them have higher or secondary-level specialized education. But it is necessary to examine more carefully how their knowledge and experience are being utilized. Our rayon agricultural management only last year received 1,459 different inquiries and letters. Each of these required a comprehensive reply immediately or within 5-10 days and [responses] were required to analyze, to work out measures, to register, to calculate, to review, to inform, to sum up, etc.... One could find all sorts of problems here! All

these papers and letters are mainly from the oblast agricultural management and other departments. There were six(!) such documents per working day, not counting references, and notes required by local organizations for current operations.

Who then processes this stream of paper? First of all, it's the economists of the rayon agricultural management, who are forced to include sovkhoz economists in this not always useful procedure. The result, quite honestly, is sad: instead of providing an active influence on production, the economists are engaged in composition of various papers. Knowing this situation, at times one is simply unable to reproach an economist.

When the rayon agroindustrial association was set up, we endowed the chief of the planning and economic division of the Rayon Agricultural Management with the title of deputy chairman of RAPO Council for Economic Problems. This was done with the hope that operation of local services will be more efficiently coordinated and that the economic exchange with our partners will be adjusted more quickly.

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FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF AGROINDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS WITHIN APK DISCUSSED

Moscow DEN'GI I KREDIT in Russian No 4, Apr 83 pp 3-10

[Article by V.I. Ushakov: "Promoting Development of the Agroindustrial Complex In Every Possible Way"]

[Excerpt] An agroindustrial complex is a multiple-branch system of enterprises and organizations, which are engaged in production, agricultural, marketing-supply, procurement and other types of activity that are directly associated with agricultural production and the processing and sale of its products.

The branches belonging to the APK [agroindustrial complex] have at their disposal fixed capital of both a production and non-production nature, the volume of which is approximately 20 percent of all fixed capital of the national economy.

The proportion of capital investments being employed for agricultural development is increasing and during the 7th Five-Year Plan it amounted to 20 percent of the overall volume of capital investments in the national economy, during the 8th Five-Year Plan -- 23 percent, during the 9th Five-Year Plan -- 26 percent, during the 10th Five-Year Plan 27 percent and during the 12th Five-Year Plan the food program calls for 27-28 percent of the overall volume of capital investments for the national economy. Moreover, the center of gravity is now shifting to the return from capital investments and this is a distinctive feature of the agrarian policies during the 1980's.

In 1982, according to data supplied by the USSR TsSU [Central Statistical Administration], approximately 45 billion rubles worth of capital investments were allocated for developing the branches of the agroindustrial complex, including 37.4 billion rubles for agriculture, of which amount approximately 31 billion rubles were to be used for the construction of production installations. Approximately 32 million square meters of housing space were placed in operation in the rural areas. During a year's time, agriculture was supplied with 268,000 trucks and special motor vehicles, 349,000 tractors, 111,000 grain harvesting combines and many other items of equipment, as well as mineral fertilizers and chemical plant protective agents.

The volume of agricultural output in 1982 was 126 billion rubles and the annual increase -- 5 billion rubles. The state grain resources are satisfying completely the population's requirements for grain and grain products.

Increases have taken place in the production of agricultural products on the subsidiary farms of industrial, construction and other enterprises and organizations and also on the private plots of the population.

The carrying out of the measures called for during the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, with regard to improving the economic mechanism, raising the procurement prices for agricultural products and other measures, will strengthen agricultural profitability, improve the financial situation and raise the proportion of internal resources in the structure of sources for the formation of working capital and capital investments.

Credit investments in branches of the agroindustrial complex on 1 January 1983, in terms of short term loans, amounted to 160.7 billion rubles and long-term credits for capital investments -- accordingly 60.4 billion rubles.

The long-term credits for capital investments were for the most part directed towards the construction of animal husbandry complexes and facilities, poultry factories, the mechanization of farms and other production installations and also for the purchasing of agricultural equipment. Considerable credits are being used for improving the social-domestic conditions of the rural population.

The participation of bank credits in creating a production-technical base for agriculture and the branches which provide services for it and in achieving civil improvements in the rural areas is promoting a solution for the tasks established during the May Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Under conditions involving the industrialization of agricultural production, the development of specialization and an extensive network of branches which provide services for agriculture and the coordination of the activities of ministries and departments and their local organs, in order to achieve more complete utilization of resources, growth in the production volumes and procurements of products and improvements in their quality, the creation of the APO is viewed as being a vital need.

The activities of agroindustrial associations created in rayons, oblasts, krays and republics include intensifying the production of food goods, the fulfillment of state plans by all enterprises subordinate to them, raising the efficiency and quality of work, improving economic relationships, increasing responsibility for the profitable management of production and the efficient utilization of land, means of production and all capital investments, logistical, labor, financial and other resources made available.

The formation of an APO [agroindustrial association] creates fine conditions for a higher return from resources invested in production and capital investments in the branches served by it.

A most important task of an APO is that of highly productive use of production potential, accelerated scientific-technical progress and strengthening of the logistical base for agriculture and all branches of the agroindustrial complex.

The activities of the mentioned associations must be aimed at:

...ensuring proportional and balanced development of all branches of the APK in the interest of intensifying the production of food goods and improving the services for kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other production enterprises;

...creating stable economic conditions for cost accounting activities and raising responsibility for the profitable management of production;

...efficient utilization of the capital investments, logistical, labor and financial resources made available, the creation of reserve funds and also the development of subsidiary farms.

The important functions of an APO include:

...economically sound distribution of the budgetary appropriations, bank credits and logistical resources allocated for kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other enterprises included in the APO;

...the centralization of individual administrative production-economic functions of enterprises and organizations included in an APO regardless of their departmental subordination;

...approval of the normative prices and rates for services and work performed by enterprises and organizations within the agroindustrial association and the establishment of accounting prices for individual types of products;

...redistribution of the limits for capital investments and logistical and other resources among the APK branches, with the consent of the respective union republic ministries and departments;

...centralization of a portion of the economic incentive funds.

Oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) agroindustrial associations are formed for the purpose of improving the administration of agriculture and other branches of the APK, improving inter-branch relationships, coordinating the activities of oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) organs of administration and mobilizing their efforts in behalf of the successful implementation of the food program. Included in the structure of an association are rayon agroindustrial associations, oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) organizations and enterprises of the respective ministries and departments pertaining to the agroindustrial complex.

Jointly with the planning organs, the associations organize the preparation of recommendations for developing the agroindustrial complex of an oblast or republic and for the efficient disposition of output production and the enterprises and organizations responsible for the procurements, processing and storage of such output; they examine the indicators for the long-range and annual plans for economic and social development of the enterprises included in their structure and they submit appropriate recommendations in this regard to the executive committees of soviets of people's deputies and to the republic councils of ministers; they prepare recommendations on the procurement volumes for agricultural products by rayons and categories of farms; by agreement with the appropriate union republic ministries and departments, they carry out the redistribution of limits for capital investments and logistical and other resources and they also centralize, either fully or partially, the

individual administrative and production functions; they centralize a portion of the economic incentive funds; they prepare recommendations for differentiating procurement prices and the additional charges added on to them; they submit proposals to the executive committee on the distribution of budgetary appropriations by rayons; based upon the standard norms, they approve the prices (rates) for services rendered; they designate raw material zones for the processing of raw materials; they create inter-farm industrial enterprises and departments for the production of mixed feeds, local construction materials and other products and also consumer goods; they control the drawing up and execution of economic contracts; they audit accounting procedures and the financial activities of enterprises and organizations included in the structure of an association.

In the area of finances, credit and reporting, the agroindustrial associations organize financial operations in the enterprises and organizations included in their structures, they carry out measures aimed at strengthening cost accounting procedures, lowering output production costs and raising profitability, they ensure the protection, special purpose and efficient use of working capital and an acceleration in their turnover rate, they prohibit the diversion of resources for purposes not associated with their activities, they ensure the timely implementation of accounts with the state budget, suppliers and the institutes of USSR Gosbank (USSR Stroybank) and they organize control over the observance of planning and staff discipline and also over existing legislation covering wages and the issuing of bonuses.

In conformity with the decisions handed down during the May Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, bonuses have been introduced for the 1983-1985 period for adding on to the procurement prices for agricultural products sold to the state by low-profitability and unprofitable sovkhoses and kolkhoses and other state agricultural enterprises operating under poor natural-economic conditions.

The list of unprofitable and low profitability farms is approved by the councils of ministers of union republics which do not have an oblast breakdown, by the councils of ministers of autonomous republics and by oblast and kray executive committees upon presentation by the councils of rayon agro-industrial associations (rayon executive committees). The mentioned bonuses must not exceed 75 percent of the procurement prices within the limits of the appropriations allocated.

The size of the bonuses added on to the procurement prices is established on a differentiated basis by farms and types of agricultural products sold to the state, depending upon their profitability level or degree of losses. The additional income obtained from raising the procurement prices and from the introduction of bonuses is being used mainly for measures associated with increasing the production of agricultural products and strengthening the economies of farms. The bonuses are paid by the procurement organizations simultaneously with the payment for the products, on a non-cash basis and using credit presented to them in conformity with the existing rules of Gosbank.

The bonus amounts paid out to the low profitability and unprofitable farms are reimbursed to the procurement specialists from a separate and special

Gosbank account, using funds from the republic budgets of union republics on the basis of appropriations called for in their budgets.

The councils of rayon agroindustrial associations are preparing and approving plans for the carrying out of organizational-technical measures during the 1983-1985 period aimed at lowering output production costs and raising the efficiency of agricultural production at low-profitability and unprofitable farms, raising the cropping power of the crops and the productivity of the livestock and poultry and strengthening the logistical base of these farms, while bearing in mind the need for completely eliminating unprofitable production operations at these farms.

The raising of procurement prices and the bonuses added on to them at low-profitability and unprofitable farms, during the course of implementing the organizational-technical measures, must ensure the financing of capital investments and other planned measures and also the timely repayment by the farms of Gosbank credits using their own internal resources.

The rayon and oblast (kray) agroindustrial associations are subordinate in their activities to the rayon, oblast (kray) soviets of people's deputies respectively.

The councils of agroindustrial associations in rayons, oblasts (krays) and autonomous republics conclude contracts and open up appropriate accounts for the associations in the institutes of Gosbank and Stroybank.

The standard statutes approved by the USSR Council of Ministers on 25 November 1982 concerning rayon, oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) agroindustrial associations legally define their rights and obligations in the sphere of planning inter-branch production-economic relationships, the sale of agricultural products, in the sphere of capital construction, logistical supply, personnel, labor and wages.

The equipment of kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other state enterprises included in the structure of an association is their property and is reflected in their balances and the property assigned to an association -- on its independent balance. They all retain their economic independence and the rights of a legal entity.

With regard to the centralized implementation of individual production-economic functions by agroindustrial associations, the funds for such activities are allocated by the appropriate enterprises and organizations included in the structure of the association.

In examining the organization of agroindustrial complexes in our country, it is appropriate to glance at the experience accumulated in improving the economic mechanism in agriculture in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, where a national agroindustrial union was created for the purpose of achieving more efficient utilization of the land, and material and labor resources and, on this basis, accelerating the rates of production and raising its efficiency and also raising to a higher level the initiative and responsibility of the collective on the whole as well as the subunits included in this union.

Under conditions involving improvements in the economic mechanism, a central production-economic element here is a production brigade which functions on the basis of brigade cost accounting principles and new economic inter-relationships with the APK leaderships and its remaining production subunits, the wages for which are based upon the final production results.

District agroindustrial unions have been created in the republic which carry out the function of administering agriculture on an economic basis. They are responsible for carrying out the state plans and tasks, balanced for the territory, and for the utilization of the land, equipment and other production elements. They must ensure the further development of the agroindustrial complex as the principal form of economic organization in agriculture, responsible for the public farms, private plots and subsidiary farms in their regions.

These district agroindustrial unions are obligated to carry out planning-control supply operations, to carry out operational, control and other functions in behalf of agricultural organizations and elements which provide services for them on the territory of the district, to coordinate and control the activities of subunits and to form their own monetary funds by centralizing a portion of the funds of economic organizations and subunits, for the purpose of solving common investment, socio-economic and other problems.

The economic organizations included in district agroindustrial unions pay 90 percent of the cost of services rendered to the organizations which provided them with such services, with the payment for the remaining portion being made at the end of the year depending upon the final production results.

An important aspect in planning is that of stable plan indicators for these unions and their fulfillment, indicators which call for the districts to support their populations in the form of food products and for the sale of such products beyond the borders of the territory.

If an APK does not fulfill its annual plan for the sale of products, then the plan for the next year is increased by the portion that was not fulfilled. In this manner the five-year plan becomes a control instrument and a criterion for the activity of an APK and its subordinate enterprises.

The indicated system of economic interrelationships in agroindustrial unions is creating favorable conditions for the self-financing of agricultural organizations and the efficient use of credit and financial resources, with use being made of a definite portion of financial reinforcements obtained from state centralized funds in the form of bank credit. In the process, the creation of supplies of agricultural products is stimulated by the extension of credit in the absence of limitations; the required credits for investments, in the face of a shortage of internal financial resources, are extended by the bank on the basis of credit agreements which set forth the repayment conditions.

The new economic mechanism for management in the People's Republic of Bulgaria calls for profits to be distributed according to the principle -- distributed only on the basis of that which is produced. It was established that wages in the system of a national agroindustrial union, from top to bottom (excluding

state organizations, the food industry and foreign trade organizations), are paid out monthly in the amount of 90 percent of the computed wage, with the remaining 10 percent being paid out at the end of the year depending upon the economic results of the system.

The indicated principles of the economic mechanism, which are being employed at organized agroindustrial complexes, are deserving of attention.

The decisions handed down during the May Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee confront the USSR Gosbank system and all of its institutes engaged in providing credit-accounting services for the branches of agriculture and the entire agroindustrial complex with new tasks aimed at achieving more efficient utilization of the entire bank mechanism, in the interest of stimulating the accelerated development of agriculture and fulfillment of the measures called for in the food program.

With regard to financing and the extension of credit for enterprises and organizations included in the agroindustrial complex, the bank economists must promote in every possible way a strengthening of true cost accounting procedures, raise the profitability of production operations, exercise control over the use of funds allocated by Tosbank and internal resources for special purposes and the observance of state, planning-financial and credit-accounting discipline and it must also raise the level of economic operations.

A chief concern in the credit-economic operations of the bank -- is that of achieving high results from the use of credit and internal resources, that is, growth in output and savings for each ruble invested.

The selection, placement and training of personnel working at institutes of Gosbank and providing services for the agroindustrial complex should be carried out taking into account the professional competence and industry of the specialists and utilizing all available moral and material incentive measures in the interest of stimulating highly productive and high quality work by the bank workers and high labor discipline; special attention should be given to creating the conditions required for increasing the labor and creative activity of young specialists, with use being made of highly skilled, politically mature and competent specialists as tutors for the youth.

Within the Gosbank system there are many examples of well organized credit-economic operations. These examples should be followed extensively and utilized effectively in practical work carried out with the agroindustrial associations and their participants.

A thorough analysis should be carried out of the production-financial plans, reports and balances of farms belonging to agroindustrial associations, with such analysis being used for improving credit planning and control over the fulfillment of established plans and for preparing recommendations for eliminating all shortcomings uncovered, in the interest of raising the operational effectiveness of these associations and achieving balanced and proportional development for all enterprises and organizations included in this association.

The business-like contacts of Gosbank institutes with the councils of agroindustrial associations must be directed towards achieving accelerated development for all of the branches and increasing the production of products and the procurements and sale of goods to the population, since this is directly associated with the tasks concerned with strengthening monetary circulation.

Every attempt must be made to ensure that the shortcomings uncovered by the bank and the unused reserves revealed by it are examined by the APO councils and that use is made (when necessary) of effective measures for bank stimulation and influence.

When examining the plans for the financing and crediting of capital investments, in connection with the activities of agroindustrial associations, it will be necessary to overcome the frequently encountered vicious practice of distributing the volumes of capital investments and financial resources among the participating associations in accordance with the work orders of the appropriate instances. When participating in the work of selecting construction projects, the funds should be made available for specific purposes and projects, assuming the presentation of sound computations for the repayment of expenditures and the economic results from the investment of internal, budgetary and borrowed funds and ensuring the timely placing of projects in operations and the return of credit within the established periods, as called for in the principal statutes dealing with bank credit.

Assistance must be furnished in the form of credit and money to aid enterprises in organizing subsidiary farms for the production of food and consumer goods, especially based upon the use of local resources, the revival and development of the production of consumer goods in historically developed and newly organized trades must be stimulated and also services involving the use of available labor resources, including at kolkhozes and sovkhoses during the inter-season period.

The leaders and specialists of Gosbank institutes in the oblasts, krays and rayons must participate actively in the work of the APO councils and their economic analysis bureaus, with regard to examining the plans and operational results of the kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other enterprises and organizations included in their structures and based upon thorough economic analysis of their activities they must submit recommendations for developing production, strengthening the economy and finances, lowering the output production costs, raising labor productivity, expending the wage and profitability funds and protecting and increasing those internal resources intended for production activities and capital investments and exercise control over the special purpose utilization of short-term and long-term credits, the timeliness of repayments for such credits and the observance of cash discipline.

Improvements must be carried out in the practice of maintaining accounts with participants in the APK and in financing and crediting for kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other enterprises included in its structure, while taking into account the coordination of their activities; towards this end, proposals should be submitted for carrying out appropriate experiments on improving the mechanism for the financing, crediting and maintenance of accounts.

With regard to financing and crediting, checks must be carried out on the timeliness of preparing the procurement and processing enterprises for accepting, processing and storing the agricultural products, assistance must be provided in the procurements by consumer cooperation organizations of the population's surplus agricultural products (at agreed upon prices) and in developing the trade in these products and checks must be carried out on the timeliness of the accounts maintained between the procurement organizations on the one hand and the kolkhozes, sovkhozes and processing enterprises on the other.

The USSR Ministry of Agriculture, jointly with the union republic councils of ministers and interested USSR ministries and departments, must summarize the operational experience of the rayon, oblast, kray and republic (ASSR) agroindustrial associations based upon their operational results for 2 years. For their part, the offices and branches of Gosbank, based upon a summary of the experience of credit-accounting interrelationships with agroindustrial associations and within the established period, must present the oblast and republic offices -- and the latter must present the USSR Gosbank administration -- with appropriate recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of money and credit in stimulating growth in the production of food and other goods.

The Soviet people have accepted the decisions handed down during the November (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 7th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation, as a spirited program for action. An extensive socialist competition has been launched in all areas aimed at achieving the planned goals for increasing the food resources, as one of the chief conditions for raising the welfare of the Soviet people. Compared to the first month of last year, milk procurements throughout the country in January of this year increased by 440,000 tons or by 15 percent. Livestock and poultry procurements increased by 4 percent and eggs by 6 percent.

USSR Gosbank workers, all of whom have joined in the national socialist competition, are striving to make a worthy contribution towards successfully implementing the tasks advanced by the party for implementing the USSR food program. Materials received from the various areas reveal that they are actively participating in the work of the agroindustrial association councils, with regard to preparing plans and measures aimed at achieving more complete use of the reserves available for increasing the production of agricultural products during the current year and in the future, ensuring the economic use of monetary funds and material and labor resources, eliminating non-productive expenditures and losses, introducing progressive methods for labor organization in the interest of raising labor productivity, strengthening cost accounting procedures and raising the return being realized from each ruble of invested resources.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

PAYMENT IN KIND FOR PRIVATE PLOT PRODUCTION ADVANCED

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/Article by V. Vasilets, special PRAVDA correspondent, Sumy-Kharkov-Uzhgorod:
"From Home Bins"/

/Text/ I remember that during the postwar years the first large farm for those times--for about 80 head--was built in our village. Clay and straw were the basic materials. It was a simple, but not an easy, job.

It was vacation time and I also set out for the construction project. I carried water and prepared the solution. We built walls and began to enclose the livestock yard and to make feeders. The entire summer passed imperceptibly in work. On the eve of the school year we, schoolchildren who took part in the construction project, were invited to the kolkhoz board. Many warm words for our help were expressed, everyone was presented with a gift and then everyone was offered pay.

I forgot how much money was due me. But I remember my first grain. A whole bag of choice wheat! Ours was a working family. Usually, we bought grain and flour at the market. Suddenly, we had our own grain...

Villagers always had grain in home bins. It was sufficient for fragrant hal-lahs and pirogs baked on cabbage leaves, for processing on the village hulling mill and for the preparation of a nourishing mash for the cow.

After several years I again found myself in my native land. I could not recognize the village street. My neighbors Boyko, Bogatyrenko and Ptashchenko had new homes and new fences. But what was this? Structures with windows--like summer kitchens--replaced former sheds in yards. Where did people keep livestock?

"Hardly anyone has cows," I was told. "The situation with feed is difficult."

The introduction of guaranteed monetary wages played an important role in the increase in labor productivity on kolkhozes, in the strengthening of discipline and in the rise in the well being of rural residents. I also knew another thing: No one abolished payment in kind.

I rushed to the then chairman: What was the matter?

"Why do people need grain?" I heard the answer. "Did you see what kind of mechanized bakery we now have? There is always an abundance of hallahs, rolls and bagels in the store. We give it for dumplings and pancakes."

Unfortunately, more than one fellow-villager chairman acted in this way during those years. As a result, home bread baking and animal raising in yards were discouraged.

From my native Ulyanovka in Sumy Oblast I traveled to Bogodukhovskiy Rayon in Kharkov Oblast. On one of the kolkhozes I noticed a garage under construction. Nonresidents, not local inhabitants of the steppe, worked there. Did local joiners and carpenters disappear? I wondered. It turned out that they did not. The trouble was in something else. Local residents could not be paid for the jobs done "in kind," while nonresidents could.

In the localities people soon became aware of this strange "mechanics" and Kharkov brigades departed for other regions. I met them--not only builders, but seeders and combine operators as well--in the Dnepr area and Kuban.

Reflecting upon so-called seasonal work, I believe that it was by no means always brought about by the surplus of manpower, the seasonal nature of production processes and the impossibility of giving everyone the job he liked. To some degree this was also affected by the rejection of payment in kind for rural residents. If there is no fodder, there is no cow. If a cow is eliminated (not to mention milk), there are no fertilizers for the garden and if there are no organic fertilizers, what kind of harvest is there on the private plot?

I will not be unsupported by facts. In my Ulyanovka previously a cow was kept in one out of three yards and now, only in one out of 20. The population of private livestock was also depleted in other oblasts in the republic.

Fortunately, the attitude toward this matter has changed recently. It is not a question of a revision of the basic pay, but of a wide search for and introduction of forms of additional payment.

One day in the fall I arrived at the Pobeda Kolkhoz in the Transcarpathian area. At that time, usually, corn was still being harvested beyond the mountain pass. But then not only was the harvest gathered from all the areas, but winter crops were sown on the land. Either the farm received additional equipment, or the plan was reduced, I thought involuntarily then. It turned out that this was not the case. A total of 1,100 out of 3,500 hectares of arable land were assigned for corn. Grain was harvested from one-half of the wedge.

"Previously, harvesting lasted almost until the snow," I. Siladi, chairman of the board, said. "We decided to interest the people. Those that picked ears manually and fulfilled the norm would receive 10 percent of the gathered harvest. There was a special account for above-plan output. Kolkhoz members went out to fields with their families. As a result, 100 quintals of dry

grain were obtained on individual plots. This wage form was also applied in the harvesting of fodder sugar beets. The field was vast--no less than 800 quintals per hectare. We were not stingy, gave part of the output to kolkhoz members and everyone gathered the harvest from the plot more rapidly. For example, for excellent work the family of Etelo Fezemesh received 9 tons of sugar beets as payment in kind. Before this the share of ears due it had been brought to it. Will the head of the family now go to other regions?"

Payment in kind attached people more strongly to land there. It evoked their interest in subsidiary farming. Suffice it to say that the stock of hogs in the private sector increased from 400 to 3,000 head in only 1 year.

I anticipate a question: Did the kolkhoz not suffer from such generosity? Not in the least. Here are its indicators: A total of 92 quintals of meat and 581 quintals of milk per 100 hectares were produced. Owing to the increased harvest and better quality of feed stored for the future, the farm was able to raise the milk yield per cow by 200 kg and to additionally fatten a couple hundred bulls.

The mutual return on payment in kind is evident. People have positively evaluated the measures directed toward an improvement in payment in kind taken by the party.

Paths and roads again brought me to Ulyanovka, my native village. The former kolkhoz chairman, who for the sake of his personal glory infringed upon the interests of kolkhoz members, was no longer there. The farm was headed by Hero of Socialist Labor V. Kolesnik. He profoundly understood the role of payment in kind and in accordance with the decisions of the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee outlined a system of incentives for people for good labor. However, what did catch my eyes? In yards ducks and hens walked on grain. Why, I thought then, should part of the wheat distributed to the population not be exchanged for fodder? Many kolkhozes and sovkhoses have mixed feed plants. A total of 2 kg of mixed feed are obtained from 1 kg of grain with additives. Earnings seemed to be doubled. Second, such a ration is more nutritive. Third, it is not mandatory to use strong wheat varieties for this.

Now let us discuss "live" payment in kind. I recall that, when there were small farms, at the end of the year, in addition to monetary payment, a young bull was given to workers who raised young stock until a certain age. With the transfer of the sector to an industrial basis, when at the complex several hundreds of animals began to be assigned to one operator, many farms gave up this incentive. The ruble became the basic criterion of labor...

An everyday situation. The cow on the private farm turned out to be barren. Will anyone hurry to buy a young bull? No. But if it is due for labor, this is another matter. Incidentally, in the final analysis this young bull will be returned to the kolkhoz, but its weight will be 5 quintals. Of course, for this it is necessary to interest the peasant and to help him with feed, not with rubles.

PRAVDA has already discussed the experience of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in West Ukraine, which on the basis of contracts with the population annually fatten tens of thousands of head of livestock in peasant yards. This is a profitable business. The production cost of meat is lower and it is not necessary to keep an additional staff of people and to be concerned with housing. For example, the people of Lvov, in order to produce as much meat as they receive according to contracts, would need to additionally build a complex costing 2.5 million rubles.

One often hears that on such and such a farm a certain amount of feed has been procured from unsuitable land. It is not a calamity if nothing is harvested. In the Transcarpathian area a guaranteed harvest is obtained from many plots "not taken into account."

The secret is simple. Unsuitable land is assigned to people. If a person mows hay on it, part of it is his and the rest is brought to the kolkhoz. I was told about one family, which grew 1,000 quintals of fodder sugar beets on 2 hectares--I stress, hectares previously considered worthless. How many plots of land inaccessible to equipment are there in the Carpathian Mountains and in the water meadows of Lvov rivers?

Since olden days the true peasant has measured his harvest in bast baskets, pails and bags. Matters must be organized everywhere so that he would have something more to measure both in public and in home bins.

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